NBC NEWS - D.N.C - NIGHT 1 - (10:00 P.M E.T -11:19 P.M E.T) (7-13 -1992)

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=C7nVJy3U71g (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=C7nVJy3U71g)

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From Monday, July 13th, 1992 NBC News Live Coverage of the 1992 Democratic National Convention in New York City.

- Coverage runs from 10:00 P.M E.T - 11:19 P.M E.T

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regularly scheduled programming will not be seen so that we may bring you live coverage of the democratic national convention new york's empire state building crowned in red white and blue a few blocks away madison square garden the center of american politics tonight as the democrats begin their national convention [Music] nbc news decision 92 the democratic national convention here is tom brokaw [Applause] good evening from madison square garden where two twin sons of the south who in the course of their political career have been roughed up in new york city returned tonight in triumph arkansas governor bill clinton the head of the ticket who successfully ran what can only be described as a gauntlet on the character issue during the new york primary earlier this year and his running mate senator al gore of tennessee who four years ago came to new york city as a presidential candidate and had the political equivalent of a mugging and then was run out of town but tonight they come back as the best unified ticket in some time for the democrats and they're backed up by some five thousand delegates altogether who in their hearts know that they are still liberals but in their heads know that they must present a more moderate indeed conservative image this time if they expect to break their long losing streak and as a result

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losing streak and as a result they have left behind in their closets their sandals their feuds their union buttons and their militancy because this time for the democrats november will count they're going to set aside principle and hope that they can be practical for a change we're looking at the floor of madison square garden now where ron brown is presiding and before too long we'll be hearing from three keynote speakers bill bradley of new jersey governor zelle miller of georgia and barbara jordan the former congresswoman from texas nbc's john chancellor is here with me as well john so far there's been some huffing and puffing on the part of jesse jackson and jerry brown but this party still belongs to bill clinton they're democrats i mean we're having a remarkably small amount of of yapping and and complaining here in this hall tonight it is for a democratic convention so far serene but it's only the first night all right the woman who is presiding at this national convention is the governor of the state of texas and richards and a short while ago she made her remarks to this convention hall here is some of what she had to say at that time now you might remember my nearly perfect granddaughter lily now lily is at the stage where she's getting excited about school i bet you can remember anticipating that first day of school you remember you were sort of eager and you were sort of scared all at the same time because it was all new no one had made an a or an f no one had been chosen first or last for basketball it didn't matter if you were rich or poor you could be a fireman or you could be a movie star or you could be an astronaut everything was out there just waiting to happen you remember that feeling well that's the feeling that we need all

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well that's the feeling that we need all over this country in the first grade classrooms and on the shop floor and in the boardrooms of the businesses of america is that eagerness that excitement that we can do it in this nation and there's granny anne right now do you think that you've got a future governor of the state of texas down there well maybe a president she's a smart little girl and i love her very much tell me about the state of texas ross perot is a folk hero of some proportions in your state isn't he going to give this ticket of yours some trouble come the fall truth is i think we're things are much better off with perot in it i think bill clinton's got a real shot in a three-person race we have run our numbers i don't even have to cook them i can tell you with some sincerity that clinton's got a real shot at it in texas and part of it has to do with turnout part of it has to do with the people that are on the local ticket can bill clinton come to texas and say listen we've got to do something about the deficit and balancing the budget in america that probably means we're going to have to cut the super collider there's going to be no space station and we may have to charge an extra five cents a gallon for gasoline he ain't gonna say that i've already asked him on all three points on all three points but how do you get to a balanced budget and how do you say to america we are going to do something different first well i think he really is going to raise the taxes on the top two percent of the country i think and i hope very much that he is going to offer some tax credits for those people who have money to invest because i think for a long time we've been very foolish in that tax policy we need to build business in this country or we're not going to have any jobs and that's going to appeal to texans just like it appeals to everybody else in the country what worries you most about george bush running for reelection come before not a whole lot i think that the fight is going to be between bush and perrault

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is going to be between bush and perrault it has to be we know from the numbers that perot takes from bush more than anywhere else over 60 percent in texas are former bush voters and i think that the race is going to be between ross perot and this is as of today between ross perot and bill clinton i think i i really think it's uh almost impossible for bush to get back in it as part of that calculation to the poor in america and especially those in the inner city just get left out this time i think the poor in america are only going to improve if the middle class in america improves we're all in it together you can't separate us anymore the only ones in america who are better off for the top two percent and we have to recognize that and the ones i know say for god's sake tax me and get this country back on the road they honestly say that to them honestly well bill clinton will have a chance to provide them with a promise that they well al gore is going to help us you remember al gore's support for the presidential election came a lot from the business community and he's going to tap that support in texas governor anne richards it's always a pleasure to see you listen come back to see us i will i enjoy that a lot and we'll see a lot more in the course this convention week you bet okay we'll be back with more right after this we're back at madison square garden where we're about to begin the keynote speeches but maria shriver standing by now with jerry brown there's some question about whether he'll address this convention maria that is a big question tom we are here with jerry brown as you said off the convention floor and the big question tonight governor brown is are you going to address this convention have you been invited well i presume so four million people voted to send me here with a message of political reform to fight the corruption the politics as usual and i think it's appropriate and as you can see a lot of these delegates they came a long way they're not very wealthy people and they came here to vote on something and to have a real participation ron brown the dnc said you can address

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ron brown the dnc said you can address this convention all you have to do is endorse the ticket just like everybody else well i don't see uh speech uh or democracy conditioned on some kind of a deal here this is the right of a candidate to address the convention to address the people that sent them here whether you endorse or not of course i mean isn't this a party of of uh many voices and many visions what they're i think they've mistaken uniformity for unity we want unity but we don't want enforced uniformity whereby like robots we're all supposed to say the same script that has no credibility among the people listening and an honest

robust debate particularly when it involves critical issues like rolling back the presidential congressional pay raise uh limiting the amount of time people can spend in washington limiting contributions to a hundred dollars fighting the trade treaty with mexico these are basic gut issues that probably 60 percent of the american people maybe more already support how many of those do they have to adopt for you to get up and endorse this ticket well uh i came here to see party reform and integrity take over from the entrenched interests and we have to make some solid progress in that direction we have something we call a humility agenda and what we're finding now is they'd rather have humiliation than humility and i'm beginning to think that's exactly what we need around here don't ask people to make some deal but let's have the full flower of honest democratic debate and out of that you'll have a unity that is powerful and persuasive finally are you going to vote for this ticket come november 3rd well you know some people say you're going to vote for it or you're not going to vote for it there's a third way make the ticket better raise this party platform and raise the spirit of the party to a higher level that's what i want okay jerry brown you heard him here he is off the convention floor back to you tom thank you marianne the people who are talking to tim russert on behalf of the clinton campaign say they'll probably work it out he'll get his chance to say what he wants to before the end of the convention but this week still belongs to bill clinton and to al gore

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clinton and to al gore and one of the brightest stars in the party who is the leadoff keynote speaker at the podium right now a man who appeared here is number 24 for the new york knicks bill bradley senator from new jersey this spring the city of los angeles burned and when it came time to confront the desperation and anger that boiled over into sickening violence time to provide help for the people of our cities what did you do george bush you waffle and wiggle and waver when we look back at the last 12 years one pattern becomes very clear the collapse of standards another bank that fails another deficit ignored another high school graduate who can't read another executive who bails out of a failing company with a golden parachute another politician who lies another politician who lies a little better another supreme court justice who's not the best we could have another male office holder who just doesn't get it the evidence of this administration's willingness to inflame the wounds that it should heal is everywhere and the spectacle of social crises that can be seen right through the windows of the white house does not seem to trouble our leaders sleep they lead the most idealistic nation in history but they are themselves without idealism fear division and the death of hope

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fear division and the death of hope these are the fruits of republican rule and so i say to our president this election year your slogans that camouflage callousness and glamorize greed will profit you nothing the party is over people are tired of paying for the mistakes and scandals of government there's work to do people want the truth but to be absolutely truthful we democrats must also look into our own hearts and admit that we too have some responsibility for our predicament we too have often preferred the short term to the long term our own kind to others individual thrills to collective responsibilities so we meet here tonight at a moment of reckoning not just for the republican or democratic parties but for america of course this is a partisan gathering but the road we must travel now is difficult and the job ahead requires that we reach beyond partisanship yes our democratic party comes to new york with a purpose but it's not just to win it's to win for a reason we come to new york to give american men and women control over their lives again we come to new york in the words of the great poet langston hughes to let america be america again let it be the dream it used to be

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there have always been two americas the flawed one we live in day by day and the better one we dream of when our spirits soar for the slave who was someone out there's great great grandparent the dream was the promise of freedom of the north star's beacon for the computer operator in trenton new jersey or the meat packer in omaha and nebraska listening right now warily to what we democrats are saying this evening the

dream is his vote [Music] the faith her vote counts the hope her vote well cast will help make a better america for 10 years i played basketball for the new york knicks in this building the guys on my day the guys on my team came from a variety of places a variety of backgrounds we respected each other and we were winners we gave up our own personal agendas so the team could succeed and win the idea of giving up something small for yourself to gain something big for all of us is not new but putting that ancient idea into practice is the central necessity of our new age giving up the desire for more of everything now is the key to having more of something better in our future we will

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in our future we will consume away our planet if we can't find the discipline to say enough the race for more more comes from the fear that we live in a world where nothing lasts and nothing endures not products homes jobs or family bonds what's life worth if we don't strive to build something that's larger than we are and last longer than we do for too long we've not worried about future generations or met our obligations to each other instead we've lived for ourselves and for today such a world is simply not sustainable what we really face is a crisis of meaning without meaning there can be no hope without hope there can be no struggle without struggle there can be no betterment what do we want our children to have an understanding of what it means to be human and how to care for others or an understanding of what it takes to step on someone else for success and how to tell more effective lives individualism degenerates into greed without agreement on its limits the microchip may be faster than the human brain but it doesn't have a heart a new drug might defeat a disease but it won't eradicate hatred technology can't tell us what's right and wrong achieving personal excellence and extending a helping hand are the indispensable elements of an american future that works and both are part of something larger assuming responsibility for ourselves and our country

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for ourselves and our country let america be america again let it be the dream it used to be [Music] i can't stand on this podium tonight without talking about race in america because the quest for racial justice is one of the reasons why i'm in politics and why i'm proud to be a democrat just as slavery was our original sin so race remains our unresolved dilemma but it's no longer a matter of white americans allowing non-white americans entrance into their society by desegregating restaurants and schools the reality is that african asian latino and native americans are at the heart of what america has been and is and all of us can determine what america will become diversity is our strength not our weakness it offers opportunity for world leadership that is deeper than the swagger of military might or the pride of material wealth it implies something unique and untapped if a new woman or a new man can be formed out of the ashes of the 20th century with all its wars and hatreds it will be done here in america at another time in our history [Music] martin luther king jr wrote from his

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martin luther king jr wrote from his jail cell in birmingham we will have to repent in this generation not merely for the vitriolic words and actions of bad people but for the silence of good people the silence of good people isn't that our challenge as a party and a nation to reach out to our fellow americans and mobilize the good people of all races for action action that will stop the random violence in our cities rebuild economic opportunity and jobs for all and provide moral leadership worthy of our ideals let america be america again let it be the dream it used to be it's sometimes said that americans lack a tragic sense of life it would be more correct to say that americans are not content to let tragedy have the last word the united states is history's greatest experiment in the elimination of despair it was built on a belief that though there are many men women and children among us who've been the victims of injustice we are not a nation of victims built on the belief that we are free men and women who cannot be reduced to our social or economic circumstances but can act to alter those circumstances built on the belief that scars do heal that the change is possible and that the present can free itself from the grip of the

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can free itself from the grip of the past built on the belief that adversity is not fate but a dare a challenge an opportunity to show that all of us all races genders ethnicities and religions can strive together can work together prosper together achieve a better america achieve a better world let america be america again let it be the dream it used to be let it be the dream it can be bill bradley olympic gold medalist rhodes scholar princeton graduate member of the new york knicks three-term senator from new jersey a man who worked as hard at his oratory skills as he did at his jump shot and i think in fairness you have to say that he succeeded with his jump shot but that his oratory skills are still a work in progress he said after he was almost defeated in new jersey last time around that he's going to start talking about what he feels not just what he knows and he has made some of the most eloquent speeches on race relations in america but when it comes to a big haul that's fred holtzman by the way his former coach for the knicks when it comes to a big haul bill bradley still comes up a little bit short john chancellor nevertheless i thought that speech was in the older mode of the democratic party talking about race talking about the names and directions of the party that i think jimmy carter might have understood hubert humphrey might have understood more than bill clinton and and the new technocrats of the democratic party it it was a very interesting speech in that it was something the democrats don't like a bit old-fashioned well on the business of race uh bill clinton who bill bradley who learned so much about race as a member of the new york knicks has talked quite elegantly somebody's talked a lot about the economy is paul songus of course who

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economy is paul songus of course who gave bill clinton more than a run for his money in the early going in this campaign especially in new hampshire he's on the floor of this convention right now with nbc's lisa myers lisa hi tom with me as you know is senator uh former senator paul songus a candidate who became known for his political courage not only because he was willing to take unpopular positions but also because of that speedo bathing suit senator you said yesterday you weren't sure this ticket has what it takes to win in november why well i think that took some of it out of context what i said was on social issues this is the right party on women's issues gay rights civil rights the environment we're fine the issue is are we going to have an economic program that's going to resonate with the american people and so far if you look at the editorials no one is proclaiming that so my job we're going to have our plans voted upon tomorrow will be defeated but hopefully begin to broad the party into a different and more aggressive economic package do you think governor clinton's economic program is credible at this point that it goes far enough in trying to deal with the deficit and putting this economy back on track well everything is relative compared to any other democratic program it's pretty good at times they really begin to overtake us compared to what we have to do i think it has to go further and that's what our plan our plans tomorrow are mild compared to what this country is going to have to deal with if it waits three or four years so right in essence saying to the clinton people look good policy is good politics adopt these planks and don't worry about ross perot if you don't adopt have a program that really does grab people ross perot may come along and grab it away from you how actively will you campaign for the clip or ticket in the fall i will campaign for it but i've made it clear that as you know senator rudman and i are going to set up this foundation try to carry these issues on a bipartisan basis and i'm going to split my time between the two obligations thank you senator and now back to tom brokaw in the booth

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brokaw in the booth thank you elise meyers with paul songus a lot of talk about taxes of course but then bill clinton remembers what happened to walter mondale when he said before this convention in san francisco ronald reagan will have to raise your taxes and so will i he won't tell you that and i just did and then mondale went on to lose that election by almost historic proportions to john cochran on the floor now john tom i'm here with congressman john dingle from michigan he's been a little concerned about a lack of midwestern strategy by the clinton gore ticket what would a midwestern strategy entail congressman well as john kennedy observed a rising tide raises all votes we want to see the midwest rise right along with everybody else and we think that getting the economy going and getting the auto industry going are two very important things

that mr okay that mr clinton can do you've got a lot of reagan democrats in michigan they voted for george bush the last time how does bill clinton get them coming forward with a good economic program coming forward with a good trade program coming forward with a good program on education coming forward with a good program of infrastructure rebuilding coming forward with a tax fairness program all of which by the way he's come forward with well having having done so why he's so concerned about a midwestern strategy you seem to feel that the midwest has been left out he has come forward with specific proposals for all of these areas what's he doing wrong john we haven't said that he doesn't have a midwestern strategy we expect to help him develop one and we know that he is going to look to us to assist him in that undertaking you want a little time with the senator of the you want a little time with governor clinton well we want a little time with him and we know he wants to hear what we have to say because we know he wants to carry the midwest okay all right thank you congressman now to andrew mitchell thank you john i'm here with senator george mitchell no relations the majority leader obviously of the united states senate uh senator mitchell you're sitting here with the main delegation jerry brown won the main caucus why not give jerry brown time to speak

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give jerry brown time to speak why destroy the possible unity of this convention by not letting him have some some time to explain his positions i hope that he will be able to speak to address the convention and i hope that we'll go out of here on friday as a unified party looking forward to victory in november but must he endorse the ticket first before he speaks well as you know that's now the subject of discussion between representatives of governor brown and the clinton campaign and i'm sure they're going to be as a party leader do you think that's that's the right position for clinton to take is he playing hardball here is it the right way uh i think they're going to work it out and uh i hope they will because i think it's important that we come out of this convention unified what about the direction of the party senator bill clinton al gore trying to move the party with their democratic leadership council toward the center away from some of the liberal principles that you have held dear is that the right thing to do is that the winning combination this year are you compromising principle to win no i think their message is the one that i've consistently stated over the years and that what this country needs is economic growth and job creation it is as true today as it was when frank and roosevelt said it at a convention 60 years ago that the best social program is a good job they're stressing economic growth i think that's what democrats should be stressing i think we've done well when we stress that thank you very much senator george mitchell of maine back to tom in the booth thank you very much henry mitchell and senator mitchell jerry brown wherever he goes is the kind of the gadfly the quirky member of the party even within his own family at two reunions two years running he was voted most improved personnel we'll be back right after this we're back at the democratic national convention in madison square garden and the second of the three keynoters is uh speaking right now he is the governor of georgia zoe miller

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governor of georgia zoe miller who was very important to bill clinton after he won new hampshire a marine corps veteran and a southern white male conservative americans have seen plants close down jobs shipped overseas and our hopes fade away as our economic position collapses right before our very eyes and george bush does not get it four years ago mr bush told us he was a quiet man who hears the voices of quiet people today we know the truth george bush is a timid man who hears only the voices of caution and the status quo let's face facts george bush just doesn't get it he doesn't see it he doesn't feel it and he's done nothing about it that's why we cannot afford four more years if the education president gets another term even our kids won't even be able to spell potato if if the law and order president gets another term the criminals will run wild because our commander-in-chief talks like dirty harry but acts like barney five if the environmental president gets another term the fish he catches

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gets another term the fish he catches off kennebunkport will have three eyes and folks after january george bush is going to have plenty of time to go fishing so much for the millionaire but we've still got ourselves a billionaire a billionaire he says he says he's an outsider who will shake up the system in washington that as far back as 1974 he was lobbying congress for tax breaks he tried to turn 55 000 in contributions into a special 15 million dollar tax loophole that was tailor-made for him sounds to me like instead of shaking the system up mr perot's been shaking it down ross ross says he'll clean out the barn but he's been knee-deep in it for years

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if ross perot is an outsider if he's an outsider folks i'm from brooklyn mr perot's giving us salesmanship not leadership and we're not buying it and so the choice in this election is clear we've got us a race between an aristocrat an autocrat and a democrat i know who i am for i'm for bill clinton because he is a democrat who does not have to read a book or be briefed about the struggles of single parent families or what it means to work hard for everything he's ever received in life there was no silver spoon in sight when he was born three months after his father died no one ever gave bill clinton a free ride as he worked his way through college and law school and the people at yale couldn't believe it when he turned down a good job in washington to go back home to arkansas and teach bill clinton bill clinton is a democrat who has the courage to tell some of those liberals who think welfare should continue forever and some of those conservatives who think there should be no welfare at all that they are both wrong

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all that they are both wrong he's a democrat who will move people off the welfare roles and own to the job roles bill clinton is a democrat who has the courage to lead a real war on crime here at home and around the world he will be the kind of commander-in-chief this old marine sergeant would be proud to follow that either one of us was able to one growing up in an appalachian valley and the other in rural arkansas to eventually become governors of our states is a tribute to the american dream and yes the democratic party if it makes it a reality when i was growing up back in the mountains whenever i felt like one of life's losers my mother used to point to the one and only paved road in our little valley a narrow little strip that disappeared winding its way through a distant gap and she'd say to me you know what's so great about this place you can get anywhere in the world from right here thanks to her and to god the united states marine corps and the democratic party i did go somewhere but i've never really left that mountain valley shirley and i our children and their children still live in the little appalachian town of

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live in the little appalachian town of young harris and tonight one of my sons is sitting in front of a television in the living room of that same rock house my mother and her neighbors built so many years ago tonight let our message be heard in every living room in every home in america wherever families and friends are gathered let them know this we have a leader and a party and a platform that says to the everyday working people of this country we will fight your fight we will carry your calls we will ease your burden we will hear all the voices of america from the silky harmonies of the gospel choirs to the rough age rhythms of a hot country band from the razor's edge wrap of the inner city to the soaring beauty of the finest soprano we hear your voice america we hear your voice we will answer your call we will keep the faith and we will restore your hope thank you god bless you god bless america sixty-year-old zell miller from the hills of appalachian governor of the state of georgia friend of bill clinton's former assistant to lester maddox that tells you how much southern politics has changed and that he can come before this democratic national convention and be one of three keynote speakers here tonight to be followed by barbara jordan black congresswoman from texas we'll be back right after this ask anyone who's driven a fort lately they'll tell you that we're building

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they'll tell you that we're building better cars and creating better ways to buy cars like our four new escort lx models all are equipped with air conditioning am fm stereo and other great standard features for one low price just 10 4.99 it's an easier better way to buy have you driven a ford lately it's more than just a question it's an answer this is a 3 000 year old prescription for soothing dry summer skin skin science update from vaseline intensive care i'm joan lunden in ancient egypt they call aloe the medicine plant and today vaseline intensive care research has combined natural aloe with silky lanolin the result a light summer weight lotion that leaves skin [Music] from nbc news decision 92 the democratic national convention once again tom brokaw we're back at madison square garden you're hearing a very warm round of applause for barbara jordan who has done this before she's been a keynoter at this very hall she is confined to a wheelchair these days you may remember her from the house judiciary committee during the impeachment proceedings against richard nixon she is now a professor at the university of texas and as her friend molly ivan says if they cast the voice of god it is barbara jordan's voice they will use nbc's tim russell has learned that what they hope to achieve with these three convention keynoters tonight bill bradley who will appeal to the head zell miller to the heart and barbara jordan to the soul of the democratic party he has been talking with the folks who have arranged this lineup we will now hear

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arranged this lineup we will now hear from former congresswoman barbara jordan [Applause] it was at this time it was at this place it was at this event 16 years ago i presented a keynote address to the democratic national convention i remind you with modesty i remind you that that year 1976 we won the presidency why not why not repeat that performance in 1992. we can do it we can do it we can do it [Applause] what we need to do democrats is believe that it is possible to win it is possible we can do it now you have heard a lot about change tonight every speaker here has said something about change and i want you to talk with me for a few minutes about change but i want you to listen to the way i have entitled my remarks change from what to what from what to what this change which is very rhetoric oriented rhetorically oriented this change acquires substance

00:44:02 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=C7nVJy3U71g&t=2642s)

this change acquires substance when each of us contemplates the public mind what about the public mind there appears to be a general apprehension in the country about the future that apprehension undermines our faith in each other and our faith in ourselves undermines that confidence the idea that america today will be better tomorrow has become destabilized it has become destabilized because of the recession and the sluggishness of the economy [Music] jobs lost have become permanent unemployment rather than cyclical unemployment the public mind public policy makers are held in low regard mistrust abounds in this kind of environment it is understandable that change would become the watchword of this time what is the catalyst which will bring about the change we are all talking about i say that catalyst is the democratic party and our nominee for president we we are not strangers to change 20 years ago we changed the whole tone of the nation after watergate abuses we did that

00:46:01 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=C7nVJy3U71g&t=2761s)

after watergate abuses we did that 20 years ago we know how to change we have been the instrument of change in the past we know what needs to be done we know how to do it we know that we can impact policies which affect education human rights civil rights economic and social opportunity and the environment these are policies these are policies which are embedded in the soul of the democratic party and embedded in our soul they will not disappear easily we as a party will do nothing to erode our essence we will not but there are some things which ought to change we need to change them but the fact that we are going to change things should not cause any apprehension in our minds because the democratic party is alive and well it is alive and well we will change in order to satisfy the present in order to satisfy the future but we will not die we will change but we will not die from what to what why not change from a party with a reputation of tax and spend to one with a reputation of investment and growth change change

00:48:02 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=C7nVJy3U71g&t=2882s)

change change a growth a growth economy is a must we can grow the economy and sustain an improved environment at the same time when the economy is growing and we are taking care of our air and soil and water we all prosper and we can do all of that [Applause] when i say something like that i certainly do not mean the thinly disguised racism and elitism which is some kind of trickle-down economics i'll tell you i will tell you the kind of economy i'm talking about i'm talking about an economy where a young black woman or a young black man born in the fifth ward of houston my town or south central los angeles are a young person in the colonials of the lower rio grande valley i'm talking about an economy where those persons can go to a public school learn the skills that would enable her or him to prosper we must have an economy does not that does not force that migrant workers child to miss school for a full day so that she can work so that she can work at less at less than the minimum wage and doing

00:50:00 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=C7nVJy3U71g&t=3000s)

at less than the minimum wage and doing that the family can still only afford one meal a day that that is the moral bankruptcy of trickle-down economics change change change [Applause] we can change the direction of america's economic engine and become competitive again we can make that change and become proud of the country that we are friends in the democratic party the american dream is not dead it is not dead it is gasping for breath but it is not dead [Applause] we can applaud that statement and know that there is no time to waste because the american dream is flipping away from too many people it is slipping away from too many black and brown mothers and their children the american dream is slipping away from the homeless of every color of every sex it's slipping away from those immigrants living in communities without water and sewage systems the american dream is slipping away from those persons who have jobs jobs which no longer will pay the benefits which will enable them to live and thrive because america seems to be better at

00:52:00 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=C7nVJy3U71g&t=3120s)

because america seems to be better at building more equipment to sit in warehouses and rocks than in building decent housing it's slipping away [Applause] the american dream the american dream the american dream is slipping away from those workers who are on indefinite layoffs while their chief executive officers are taking home bonuses which equal more than the worker will ever make in 10 20 or 30 years [Applause] we we need we need to change the decaying inner cities from decay to places where hope lives [Music] as we undergo that change we must be prepared to answer rodney king's haunting question can we all get along can we all get along i say i say we answer that question with a resounding yes yes yes we must we must [Applause] we must change we must change that deleterious environment of the eighties that environment which was characterized by greed and hatred and selfishness and mega mergers and debt overhang change it to what change that environment of the eighties to an environment which is characterized

00:54:03 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=C7nVJy3U71g&t=3243s)

to an environment which is characterized by a devotion to the public interest public service tolerance and love love [Applause] love we are one we americans we're one and we reject any intruder who seeks to divide us on the basis of race and color we honor we honor cultural identity we always have we always will but but separatism is not allowed separatism separatism is not the american way we must not allow ideas like political correctness to divide us and cause us to reverse hard-won achievements in human rights and civil rights [Applause] xenophobia has no place in the democratic party we seek to unite people not divide them [Applause] as we seek to re to unite people

00:56:03 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=C7nVJy3U71g&t=3363s)

as we seek to re to unite people we reject both white racism and black racism this party [Applause] this party this party will not tolerate bigotry under any guides [Applause] our strength our strength in this country is rooted in our diversity our history bears witness to that fact unum from many one it was a good idea when

the country was founded and it's a good idea today [Applause] from many from many one that still identifies us we must frankly acknowledge our complicity in the creation of the unconscionable budget deficits acknowledge our complicity and recognize painful though it may be that in order to seriously address the budget deficit we must address the question of entitlements also that's not easy that's not easy but we have to do it we have to do it because the idea of justice between generations

00:58:00 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=C7nVJy3U71g&t=3480s)

of justice between generations that idea mandates that the baby boomers that's our ticket the baby boomers [Applause] the baby boomers and their progeny are entitled to a secure future they are however however if we are going to ask those who receive benefits to sacrifice there must be equity in sacrifice equity in sacrifice that idea says that we will sacrifice for growth but that everybody must join in the sacrifice not just a few equity in sacrifice means that all will sacrifice equally equally equally that is that is the person who is retired on an unfixed income the day laborer the corporate executive the college professor the member of congress all must sacrifice for equity one one overdue change which you have already heard a lot about is already underway and that is that is reflected in the number of women now challenging the councils of political power the number [Applause] these women are challenging those

01:00:03 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=C7nVJy3U71g&t=3603s)

these women are challenging those councils of political power because they have been dominated by white male policymakers and that's wrong [Applause] that horizon that horizon of gender equity is limitless for us [Music] and what we see today is simply a dress rehearsal for the day and time we meet in convention to nominate madam president [Applause] this country [Applause] this country [Applause] this country this country can ill afford to continue to function using less than half its human resources less than half its kinetic energy less than half its brain power we had a 19th century visitor from france de tocqueville came to america and he was asked if i were asked this is de tocqueville if i were asked he said to what singular substance do i mainly attribute the prosperity and growing strength of the american people i should reply to tocqueville said i should reply to the superiority of their women

01:02:07 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=C7nVJy3U71g&t=3727s)

of their women now gentlemen [Applause] gentlemen let's let the word i can only say i can only say the 20th century will not close without the presence of women being keenly felt [Applause] we must leave this convention tonight with a determination to convince the american people to trust us the american electorate must be persuaded to trust us the democrats to govern again that that is not easy but we can do it we can do it public apprehension and fears about the future have provided very fertile ground for a chorus of cynics and these cynics go around saying that it makes no difference who is elected president of the united states you must say to those cynics you are perpetuating a fraud it does

01:04:02 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=C7nVJy3U71g&t=3842s)

it does make a difference who is president a democrat a democratic president a democratic president would appoint a supreme court justice who protects liberty rather than burden liberty [Applause] a democratic president would promote principles [Music] programs policies which help us help ourselves now there is another agenda item which has arisen character has become an item on the political agenda of 1992. the question of character is a proper one but if you were to exercise a well-reasoned examination a well-reasoned examination of the question of character what you discover is that the whole question falls into emotionalism rather than facts you know how dangerous it is for us to make decisions based on

01:06:00 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=C7nVJy3U71g&t=3960s)

for us to make decisions based on emotion rather than reason james madison the founder of the constitutional father of the constitution warned us of the perils of relying on passion rather than reason there is an editor a late editor of the emporia kansas gazette who had this william white who had this to say about reason and it's very very pertinent the quote reason has never failed man only fear and oppression have made the wrecks of the world it is reason it is reason it is reason and not passion which god which should guide our decisions the question persists the question persists who can best lead this country at this moment in our history [Applause] i close i close my remarks i close my remarks by quoting from franklin roosevelt franklin roosevelt's inaugural address which he made in 1933. franklin roosevelt made that address to a people longing for change from the darkness and despair of the great depression and this is what roosevelt said in every dark hour of our national life

01:08:04 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=C7nVJy3U71g&t=4084s)

every dark hour of our national life a leadership of frankness and vigor has met with that understanding and support of the people themselves which is essential to victory given given the ingredients of today's national environment maybe maybe just maybe we americans are poised for a second rendezvous with destiny [Applause] barbara jordan of texas the daughter of a baptist preacher confined now at this stage in her life the wheelchair because of multiple sclerosis a professor at the university of texas down there on the floor is nbc's tim russert didn't you think the democrats achieved what they wanted to with these three keynote speeches tonight tom i was backstage with all three keynoters and asked them to write their own headlines about their speeches tonight bill bradley said challenges america to come together dale miller democrats must fight to keep the american dream alive barbara jordan democrats changed define myself and we will win i asked a jordan aide whether she was going to preach the old-time democratic gospel they said no she's going to teach the new testament change a pretty good metaphor for the tone the democrats are trying to set here tonight at the same time however a lot of the old testament from the democrats as well talking about the inner city the poor the urban policies that need to be addressed and are not very much in the democratic platform that will be adopted later this week we'll be back

01:10:00 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=C7nVJy3U71g&t=4200s)

adopted later this week we'll be back with more from madison square garden right after this we're back that's madison square garden the floor following the keynote address of barbara jordan from texas one of three keynoters here tonight and this convention has gone about as smoothly as one can expect the democrats it must be good news to bill clinton and the funny-made al gore there have been some small glitches along the way jerry brown continuing to insist that he get to speak from the podium jesse jackson's still not happy with his treatment but all together john a unified front that has been presented here tonight and one essentially of moderation that reflects the democratic leadership council that bill clinton helped found to try to steer the democrats away from their old liberal allegiances it was a it was an interesting mixture of the older democratic party and the kind of new direction that clinton is trying to take the party in i thought barbara jordan was especially effective there's a kind of a of a 19th century spaciousness about that prose she said there appears to be a general apprehension in the country about the future and if she's right the democrats have a pretty good chance of winning this election i think it's indisputable that she's right i think that the country for is certainly during my adult lifetime is as terrified as it has ever been because the world has changed so profoundly and this world in which they're living has changed as well and that's what the democrats hope to be able to capitalize on whether they can remains to be seen we still have much more to go here from madison square garden tomorrow night of course the presentation of the democratic platform the nominations will come on wednesday night and then thursday night the most important speech that bill clinton will make in his political career in which he hopes in effect to reintroduce himself to the american people he did say tonight that he is working on a shorter speech you recall four years ago he went on at some length in his introduction of michael dukakis this time he comes back as the nominee himself in the most important speech that he

01:12:01 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=C7nVJy3U71g&t=4321s)

in the most important speech that he will make we'll be back here of course nbc and pbs will continue their joint venture and then we'll have continuing unilateral coverage on nbc for now i'm tom broke on nbc news on behalf of all of us good evening

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